

REMARKS

SUMMARY

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-28 are in the application and are subject to examination. Claims 2-4, 8, 13-14, 17, 22-24, and 27-28 have been amended to either depend from allowed claims 7, 15, 16, and 26, or to include similar limitations. Claims 1, 5-6, 11-12, 20-21, and 25 have been canceled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 2-4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-24, 26-28 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 8-11 and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beelitz. (U.S. patent # 4,251,742).

Beelitz discloses claimed subject matters (figure 1-4), including the input terminal has exceed the supply threshold (Abstract, line 5-10), the second output voltage is ground (figure 2, item near 15 and claim 2) N-type transistor (column 1 line 10-15).

The Applicant has amended independent claim 8 to include similar limitations to that of allowed claim 7. Therefore, the Applicant contends that claim 8 is now allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 7 was found to be allowable. Additionally, claims 9-11 all depend directly from claim 8, thereby incorporating its limitations. Therefore, for at least the same reasons, claims 9-11 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

With regard to claims 21-25, the Applicant has canceled claims 21 and 25 without prejudice, thereby rendering their rejections moot; and amended claims 22-24 to depend from allowed claim 26 thereby incorporating all of its limitations. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted, that for at least the same reasons claim 26 was found to be allowable, claims 22-24 are also allowable.

Claims 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Dhong et al. (U.S. patent # 5,212,616).

Dhong et al. disclose the claimed subject matters a method comprising: pulling an output terminal to ground and pulling the output terminal to the supply voltage (figure

1-7), voltage exceed the supply threshold (claim 1 and 10), an NMOS device (column 3, line 45-50).

The Applicant has amended independent claim 17 to include similar limitations to that of allowed claim 7. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully contends that claim 17 is now allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 7 was found to be allowable. Additionally, claims 18-19 depend from independent claim 17 thereby incorporating its limitations. Therefore, for at least the same reasons, claims 18-19 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Claim 20 has been canceled, without prejudice, rendering its rejection moot.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 12-14 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wada et al. (U.S. patent # 4,716,323) in combination with Beelitz (U.S. patent # 4,251,742).

The Applicant has amended claims 2-4 to depend from allowed claim 7, thereby incorporating all its limitations. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that for at least the same reasons claim 7 is allowable, claims 2-4 are also allowable. Claims 1 and 5 have been canceled, without prejudice, thereby rendering their rejections moot. With respect to claim 6, the Applicant notes that no rejection has been made, however, claim 6 has been canceled, without prejudice, thereby rendering moot any possible rejection.

With regard to claims 12-14, the Applicant has canceled claim 12 without prejudice, thereby rendering the Examiner's rejection moot, and amended claims 13-14 to depend from allowed independent claim 15, thereby incorporating its limitations. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that for at least the same reasons claim 15 is allowable, claims 13 and 14 are also allowable.

With regard to claims 27-28, the Applicant has amended claims 27-28 to depend from allowed claim 26, thereby incorporating all its limitations. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that for at least the same reasons claim 26 was deemed allowable, claims 27-28 are also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-24, and 26-28 are solicited. As a result of the amendments made herein, Applicant submits that claims 2-4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-24, and 26-28 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present paper, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (503) 796-2408. If any fees are due in connection with filing this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the Deposit Account of Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt, P.C., No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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